Dear Js, 3/21/73

This is to you alone. It is not to immerse you in my problems or those of the so-called critical community but to inform you and to solicit such opinion as you may have to offer. My concern is genuine and I fear I shall also have to break off from Paul for several reasons. There is a note at the end of my letter referring to the first time I have ever heard Lesar, who cohabitates with nuts, ask if I had reason to believe someone is paranoid. He asked me this of Paul, based on Paul's attitude and behavior when they were together and with some explicit comment Paul made about his briefcase.

I have copied Paul's letters for you also. I have not included that to Justice only because I didn t think it would particularly interest you and this is already much to read.

I'm sorry to have so many no-goodies for you. If I get to it there is finally word from the waif. Lil's reaction was of total disbelief. She was with me when I went to the post office and I gave her the letter to read as we drove. I share it. I wonder if it is more than fantasicizing. If I get to it, I'll include my response. This is typical of the past following my pressures.

My intent in the letter to Paul, where I suggest that if he doubts my representation of the press angle he consult you, was that, straight and by itself, and more. On the more as on that I left your opetions open, did not commit you to anything. However, if you find any agreement with me, I also thought you might want to satisfy yourself on Jim's question. I find this concern for the trivial entirely opposite the Paul of the past as I knew him.

He seems to have had some kind of rought thesis time, coming from the disappearance of his speciality. He is what there is no longer need for.

He plans a competitive Agent Oswald book. At the time of concept, even though he knew I was working on such a book and shared everything with him, if Ifelt there were other things he could have done, I made suggestions and offered him everything I have because it was not then certain that commercial viability was nil. Now he tells Jim he doesn t care if he makes only 15 copies, he is going ahead, without change or thought of any change in the situation. I wish I'd gotten this before I took the time to give him what I think is a better suggestion, for I now have to give it to him. I am troubled by his judgement and emotional stability, not his intelligence, and I fear what he might put together now. You'll see a few smaples of less than real responsibility.

I think I see other and subconscious or unconscious things, but I do not articulate them because they could color your judgement. I have become increasingly aware of one of two possibilities: seeing these things as more widespread than I did or seeing things that do not exist.

Finding what I think I see in Paul is aking to a down-with-motherhood bit. I had always regarded him as the most solid, too solid, despite such things as the melons. If I didn't tell you, there seems to be a time correlation between that and the appearance of The Day of the Jackal, in which it was used.

I had been detached from Paul on his initiative, not mine. This is not typical. I detached from most of the others or forced one. There is but one not of my election. I am quite disturbed by his continuing relationship with Ned, not otherwise or earlier disclosed. That is enough for me to break off. I can t undo the past but I can avoid what is avpidable in the future. He seems to go for all such types, maintaining contact with and trust in Lifton when his character and his sickness had long be obvious and scandalous. Newcomb is a farout type.

What a way to kill most of a day!